

NEW ADVERTISEMENT

BIJOU THEATRE.

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT

of the
**FANTASTIC
STARS**

FOR THREE NIGHTS.

Wednesday, December 26th
Thursday, " 27th
Friday, " 28thPRICE \$2, \$1 & 50 CENTS.
[1426]

INTIMATIONS

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF
HONGKONG.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (MONDAY), TO-MORROW (TUESDAY) and WEDNESDAY, the 24th, 25th and 26th instant.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
[1423]MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION
OF HONGKONG.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (MONDAY), TO-MORROW (TUESDAY) and WEDNESDAY, the 24th, 25th and 26th instant.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
[1424]

NOTICE.

OUR STORE will be OPEN ALL DAY TO-DAY (MONDAY), the 24th inst. MACKINTOSH & Co., Ltd.
[1415]

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

TO-DAY (MONDAY), 24th December, 1917, All Departments will be Open for business until 7 P.M.
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 24th December, 1917. [1417]

BOXING DAY.

FOOTBALL.

CLUB GROUND,
CHARITY MATCHES.

2.30 P.M.

SERVICES v. CIVILIANS.

Admission to Stand 50 Cts.
Front Seats 20 Cts.

4.00 P.M.

ENGLAND v. SCOTLAND.

Admission to Stand \$1.00
Front Seats 50 Cts.
Proceeds will be given to the Halifax and Star and Garter Funds.
[1422]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

TEA DANCES.

THE MANAGEMENT beg to announce that in future the Charge for TEA, including the PRIVILEGE OF DANCING, will be \$1.00 per head, 25% of which sum will be Donated by the Hotel Company to WAR CHARITIES.

J. H. TAGGART,
Manager.
[1409]

NOTICE.

I, R. P. ROBERTS, Master of the British steamer "PROMISE" hereby give Notice that I will not be responsible for any Debt or Debts contracted by the members of my crew during the ship's stay in port.

R. F. ROBERTS,
Master.
[1425]

G. R.

NOTICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that in accordance with Regulations, published under Government Notification No. 514 of 23rd November, 1917, commencing from 1st JANUARY next, all PRIVATE RICKSHAS have to be LICENSED at an Annual Licence fee of \$10 payable in advance. RICKSHA DRIVERS have to be Licensed at a fee of 30 cents Half-Yearly.

C. M. MESSER,
Captain Superintendent of Police,
Hongkong, 16th December, 1917. [1395]

INTIMATIONS

8% MILITARY LOAN.

REDEMPTION OF DRAWN BONDS.

THE Repayment of 8% Military Bonds drawn at the Third Drawing amounting to \$1,700,000 will commence on 10th December, 1917. The Repayment will be made in SILVER.

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

Peking, 20th November, 1917. [1391]

8% MILITARY LOAN.

REDEMPTION OF BONDS DRAWN AT
THIRD DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the Public that at the 3rd Drawing for Repayment of the 8 per cent. Military Loan Bonds held on 2nd October, 1917, Bonds to the value of \$1,700,000.00 have been drawn, which amount constitutes about one-fifth of the Bonds recognised by this Ministry. A List of Drawn Bonds is published in the Government Gazette and other newspapers.

Repayment of Bonds sold in Singapore, Batavia and the Philippine Islands will be made by the Branch Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION at these places. The Bank of China, Shanghai, will transfer funds for Repayment of Bonds sold through the Batavia, Soe Po San. In Onba, Repayment will be made by the Changsha Guild upon surrender of the Bonds to the Bank of China, Shanghai. In Yokohama by the CHINESE CONSULATE-GENERAL; in Kiangai by the KIANGSI BANK; in Fukien by the BANK OF CHINA; in Peking by the BANK OF CHINA. Besides the above cases, Repayment of Drawn Bonds will generally be made by the BANK OF CHINA, Shanghai.

Drawn Bonds when presented must be accompanied by all remaining Coupons, as all such Bonds are not entitled to any further interest after the payment of 1st Coupon. If all remaining Coupons (beginning with the 12th Coupon) are not presented together with the Drawn Bonds, then the total amount represented by these Coupons shall be deducted from the repayable principal.

Drawn Bonds must be presented for Repayment within five years from the date of Third Drawing, after which period of five years each Bond shall become Null and Void.

\$1,000 each. \$100 each.

Nos.	Tickets	Nos.	Tickets
9-10	2	125-155	31
11-22	2	1011-1041	31
23-28	2	1073-1103	31
29-32	4	1135-1165	62
33-38	2	1250-1280	31
39-43	2	1554-1584	31
44-49	2	1686-1726	31
50-59	4	1790-1851	62
60-69	2	5559-5563	5
70-79	2	6428-6468	31
80-89	2	6500-6530	31
90-99	2	6748-6778	31
100-109	2	6810-6840	31
110-119	2	6935-6965	31
120-129	2	7028-7058	31
130-139	2	9210-9316	107
140-149	2	9584-9590	7
150-159	2	10068-10174	107
160-169	2	10282-10495	214
170-179	2	10710-10816	107
180-189	2	11673-11779	107
190-199	2	12101-12207	107
200-209	2	12429-12535	107
210-219	2	13562-13668	107
220-229	2	13787-13817	31
230-239	2	14010-14040	31
240-249	2	14073-14095	23
250-259	2	14098-14134	37
260-269	2	18127-18167	41
270-279	2	18201-18291	91
280-289	2	18354-18394	41
290-299	2	18642-18646	5
300-309	2	18672-18673	2
310-319	2	18717-18923	107
320-329	2	19631-20007	377
330-339	2	20787-20893	107
340-349	2	21001-21107	107
350-359	2	21429-21535	107
360-369	2	22071-22177	107
370-379	2	22927-23140	214
380-389	2	23355-23427	73
390-399	2	30001-30034	34
400-409	2	30877-30783	107
410-419	2	30891-31104	214
420-429	2	31533-31639	107
430-439	2	31961-32000	40
440-449	2	32687	1
450-459	2	32691	1
460-469	2	32693-32694	2
470-479	2	32696-32700	5
480-489	2	32737-32951	215
490-499	2	33167-33281	215
500-509	2	34457-34671	215
510-519	2	35102-35316	215
520-529	2	35352-37038	215
530-539	2	37467-37593	127
540-549	2	38327-38756	430
550-559	2	39001-39058	58
560-569	2	39273-39379	107
570-579	2	39808-39810	3
580-589	2	39821-39825	5
590-599	2	39861-39865	5
600-609	2	39876-39885	10
610-619	2	39896-39905	10
620-629	2		
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3620			

THE WAR.

REPORTED REJECTION OF RUSSIAN PEACE TERMS.

FORTHCOMING TEUTONIC OVERTURES O THE ALLIES.

ITALIAN SITUATION STILL CAUSES ANXIETY

RHEIMS SHELLED AGAIN.

THE PREMIER'S MASTERLY REVIEW.

Italian front

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN FRONT.

AN ANXIOUS SITUATION.

LONDON, December 21st.

Reuter's Correspondent with the French Headquarters in Italy, wiring yesterday, says:—The situation is still anxious, but further snowstorms may any day stabilise the front for the winter. The enemy's recent gains were dearly bought by the Jaegers.

The capture of Monte Asolone on the 18th inst. may enable the enemy to embarrass our communications in the plain, notably towards Bassano, where two railways meet, which also threatens Monte Grappa in being turned from the west.

ITALIANS RE-CONQUER MONTE ASOLONE.

Rome, December 22nd.

In the Chamber, the Minister of Munitions announced that the Italians to-day re-conquered Monte Asolone.

BITTER SNOW AND HARSHIPS.

LONDON, December 22nd.

Reuter's Correspondent at Italian Headquarters sends a thrilling description of the intense winter conditions that the Italians are undergoing in the long drawn-out duel against the ever-rising flood of the enemy. The Austro-Germans have accumulated a tremendous number, but cannot make a stand on the mountains dominating the field of attack surrounding the Grappa mountain and the valleys leading to the plain. It is necessary to dynamite artillery-trenches in consequence of the hardness of the frozen ground. The gunners are often obliged to place their cannon unsheltered, while the snowy background makes them an easy target. Field telegraphists and stretcher-bearers face almost certain death in carrying out their duties. Hours infantry are obliged to lie down for ours on the utterly exposed ground, awaiting the moment of attack, while the snow in a melted form penetrates their bones.

Notwithstanding the hardships, the spirit of the troops, notably that of the Alpini, is undaunted.

Franco-Belgian front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

PATROL ENCOUNTERS.

LONDON, December 21st.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed a raid north-eastward of Messines and captured a few prisoners in patrol encounters.

RAIDING.

LONDON, December 22nd.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed raiders at night in the neighbourhood of the Bapaume-Cambrai road, eastward of Monchy-le-Preux and south-eastward of Arras.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

RHEIMS SHELLED.

PARIS, December 22nd.

A communiqué states:—Artillery firing was active in the region of Courrières Wood.

In Alsace an attempt to rush our trenches west of Cernay was repulsed.

RAILWAY DISASTER IN AMERICA.

MANY KILLED AND INJURED.

SHEPHERDSTOWN (Kentucky), December 21st.

Sixty persons were killed and 70 injured in a collision between a Louisville and Nashville passenger train and a local train last night.

CAILLAUX'S ITALIAN INTER-MEDIARY.

Rome, December 21st.

In the Chamber, during the debate on the case of Signor Cavallini, who is alleged to have been the intermediary between M. Caillaux and the Germans, Deputy Pirolini described Caillaux as the "Gioletti of France." An uproar ensued, and subsequently Signor Gioletti declared that he could not accept Deputy Pirolini's comparison, because he never supported and never would support a separate peace or any action not absolute, loyal to the Allies. He appealed for parliamentary immunity at a time when the enemy was in Italy. (Loud cheers.)

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

UKRAINIAN REVOLUTIONARY MEMBERS ARRESTED.

PETROGRAD, December 21st.

The Red Guards at three o'clock in the morning surrounded and invaded the premises of the Ukrainian Revolutionary Staff and arrested four members. At present a search is being instituted for other members of the Staff, which constituted the sole official representatives of the Rada at Petrograd.

FOOD CATASTROPHE IN GERMANY PREDICED.

AMSTERDAM, December 22nd.

The *Voorwaerds*, in a sharp attack on the Food Controller, declares that agricultural producers and rich townsmen are living in plenty, while the middle class maintains itself precariously. The masses are not only hungry, but are literally starving.

The paper is of opinion that there might be an absolute catastrophe in Germany within a month, and the collapse will be even more serious than in Russia, and as a result a German defeat and entire loss of the war.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, December 21st.

Silver is quoted 43½d. per ounce. There are small offerings, and the market is steady.

WEEKLY REPORT.

LONDON, December 22nd.

Messrs. Samuel and Montagu's weekly silver report is as follows:—As usual, this season the trade demand is inactive. So, pending fresh developments regarding important purchases projected by the British and American Governments, the market remains quiet.

Shanghai exchange has strengthened further. The latest official quotation is 4/4 per tael.

The Indian silver holding continues to shrink.

MOTHERLAND'S SHARE.

FICTION OF MILLIONS IN IDLENESS.

Reuter's Agency received a statement regarding the part played in the war by the soldiers of the Motherland, which disposes of the fable that very large numbers of trained soldiers fit for service overseas are retained in idleness in the United Kingdom. The fact is that the fictitious millions said to be in reserve in Great Britain include not only men under training and trained men, but sick and wounded, training staffs, and labour and administrative units.

In the actual theatres of war the proportion of troops from the Motherland to those from the Dominions is between five and six to one.

It is sometimes thought that the troops from the Dominions are used more freely than those from the Motherland. The figures in the four series of battles on the Somme, around Arras and Ypres, and at Messines, speak for themselves.

Divisions Engaged. Casualties per Division.

Mother-Dominion. Mother-Dominion. Somme 5 to 1 5 to 4. Arras 34 to 1 7 to 6. Ypres 7 to 1 5 to 1. Messines 2 to 1 11 to 13.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."] SHANGHAI, December 21st.

THE QUESTION OF DOMESTIC PEACE.

The declaration to stop war had been drafted but at yesterday's Cabinet meeting some Ministers opposed it and therefore it has not been issued.

Luk Wing-ting has wired to the President stating that he is old and will retire.

Chen Ping-kun has wired to Li Chun stating that he approves of the cancellation of self-government.

CHINA AND THE ALLIES' ECONOMIC CONFERENCE.

The President has telegraphed to Tao K'un, Chan Hwai-tee, Li Chun, Chen Kwang-yuan, and Wang Chien-guan about Luk Wing-ting, and Taa Chi-yao's opinions on the subject of peace.

The question of entering the Paris Economic Conference is being discussed by the Ministries of War, Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, and Finance.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."] CANTON, December 23rd.

GENERAL LUNG'S MOVEMENTS.

General Lung Chai-kwong has sent one of his supporters, Li Kar-pan, with a force of 2,000 strong to Yeung Kong, who arrived there on the 17th instant. It is believed that General Lung is in command of about twenty regiments and will also be assisted in his invasion by a number of gunboats. The route taken will be by way of Ko-chow and Lui-chow.

A few of General Lung's gunboats have, it is said, been captured by the 1st Squadron in the Yeung Kong waters. It is reported that fighting took place between General Lung's troops and Canton troops on the 20th inst., but details are wanting.

General Lung announces that he has entered into agreements with General Luk Wing-ting to cancel the independence of the two Kwangs, which will henceforth obey the Peking Government.

General Luk Wing-ting has wired to the Peking Government stating that he has sent the Inspector-Commissioner's seal to General Lung Chai-kwong in King-chow.

It is reported the Peking Government has consulted with General Luk Wing-ting, and Tong Kai-yew (Yunhan Tschun) as to the mode of dealing with Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

THE TUCHUNS' DENIALS. The Tschun, Mok Wing-sen denies that he has resigned and also that the province will cancel its independence.

Admiral Ching Pih-kwong has received a telegram stating that the Northern gunboats *Hon-Yung*, *Kong-Hang* and *Chor-Hin* will come to the support of the 1st Squadron in Canton. Admiral Ching has ordered that a fitting welcome shall be accorded them, and the matter has been reported to the Tschuns.

MINERALS OF THE EMPIRE.

It is understood that a definite decision has been arrived at to provide the necessary machinery for the protection and advancement of the economic welfare of the metal and mineral industries of the Empire. Last year the Iron and Steel Institute, representing the iron and steel industries, the Institute of Metals, representing the users and manufacturers of non-ferrous metal and alloys, the Institution of Mining Engineers, representing the coal and iron mining and Metallurgy, representing the mining of minerals other than coal and iron ore, and the production of metals other than iron and steel, jointly advocated the establishment of a Department of Minerals and Metals, and this proposal was the subject of a resolution of the Imperial War Conference. Arrangements are now being made for the formation of a body called the Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau, which will be representative of the different parts of the Empire. There are highly organized geological surveys and departments of mines in nearly all foreign countries, and there are similar well-organized departments in some of the British Dominions, but there is no connecting link or central clearing-house to co-ordinate information on the mineral resources of the Empire, to stimulate their development, to acquire, and to safeguard Imperial interests.

The serious results to the national interests of this absence of co-ordination in the past have been amply demonstrated by the war, and the new body is designed to make good this deficiency.

UNIVERSITIES AND THE WAR.

From the beginning of the war the universities of England—organized for peace, and closely bound to the international commonwealth of letters and research—have undertaken an ever-developing series of tasks in the national defence. Looking back on their records after three years of warfare, one realizes how greatly the country would have suffered, how much it would have lost, in the absence of their services.

With the introduction of the territorial army system, in 1908, the universities were given an opportunity of forming special military units, called officers' training corps. This they readily did, with the result that many of their students graduated on to the list of the army reserve of officers. Their chief service, however, was the creation of a numerous reserve of trained men eminently suited for commissions, who could be drawn upon for such a purpose in the event of any national emergency.

COMMISSIONS BY THOUSANDS.

The emergency came, and the students filed their applications for commissions by the thousands. Those already on the reserve of officers were called up, and many went to France with the first expeditionary force. The new battalions, as they were raised, received their quota of student officers, who play a prominent part in their training; and the steady stream of recruits to the C.T.C.'s doubled and trebled their ranks in spite of the demands which the daily *Gazette* made on their establishments. Cambridge, for example, supplied the army with nearly 4,000 officers from its O.T.C. alone, in addition to over 8,000 other graduates and under-graduates who received their commissions through other sources, generally by enlisting as privates first. Nor were the younger and smaller universities a whit behind; to mention only one, Bristol, founded in 1603, and having an average roll of barely 1,000 students, even including women, yet with a proud record of over 700 commissioned collegians.

So highly did the War Office value the training capacities of these Corps and their staffs, that many of them were extended to include schools of instruction for young officers, who were sent there for short periods after receiving their commissions. Thus the war, from a very early stage of the war, had monthly courses of instruction, where the average attendance approximated to nearly 400. It says much for the type of our English students and the character of the training they receive, that the Government should have at once turned to the universities for a goodly proportion of the officers required for the new armies.

The universities did not confine themselves to supplying men for commissions; many of the students enlisted directly into the army as privates, and some universities did much by their example to encourage this form of enlistment. Thus the authorities of Sheffield University were largely responsible for the raising of a new battalion of the York and Lancaster regiment, and the whole Welsh division was permeated by recruits from the university colleges of Wales.

At least one battalion of a regiment, including in its recruiting district a university town, could boast of its "Students' Company"; and so out in France we heard troops swinging along the dusty roads to the lit of a rollicking "varsity chorus," or going into action with students' rallying cries on their lips.

MANY DECORATIONS.

The number of decorations awarded is perhaps not the best criterion by which to arrive at a satisfactory estimate of military worth; but even so, the honours lists of the universities are certainly impressive. Distinctions conferred on Oxford men include 12 V.C.'s, 219 D.S.O.'s, 885 M.C.'s. Students of Cambridge have won six V.C.'s, 202 D.S.O.'s, and 673 M.C.'s. Even so recently founded a university as Liverpool (1903), with a modest peace-time roll of less than 1,000 male students, can boast of four V.C.'s, 11 D.S.O.'s, and 31 M.C.'s. The best proofs, however, of the patriotism of our students are the empty class-rooms of the universities, empty now as from the beginning of the war. The work of caring for the wounded has absorbed much of the effort of the universities. Even university buildings, themselves, have been given up to the care of the wounded. The technical, as distinct from the medical, war-work of our university men, for obvious reasons can only be hinted at; but it is no exaggeration to say that after the war some startling facts will emerge. The schools of forestry and agriculture have provided experts to deal with the problems of the greater home cultivation which the war has forced on us, and the best means of using our own valuable timber resources. Munition works have recruited largely from the departments of engineering and applied sciences, and university men have been responsible for many of the most subtle inventions for use in war.

GAS COMPANIES.

Immediately after poison-gas was introduced by the Germans, scores of trained men quickly left the chemistry laboratories to form the British gas companies, and to study the best means of combating this new weapon of war, while the convincing reply which we have made to all the later German frightfulness, has resulted in great measure from the efforts of professors and students who have been absorbed in the government departments created for this purpose. As a result of the co-ordination between university men and manufacturers we have built up a huge war industry in technical and chemical products, the manufacture of which was formerly almost a German monopoly. This co-ordination will increase, rather than diminish. Germany can best reckon for herself what it will cost her in future commercial competition.

"FANTASTIC STARS"

The "Fantastic Stars" appearance at the Victoria Theatre last night proved so successful that it has been arranged for these talented artists to appear at the Bijou Theatre for three nights—Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. This week, owing to the Victoria Theatre being already heavily booked with Christmas attractions it was impossible to play a longer time here.

DEATH AFTER BURIAL.

REMARKABLE STORY OF A HYPNOTIST.

An astonishing story of a young composer who was hypnotised and practically buried alive by a self-styled professor is disclosed in the latest West Indian newspapers to reach London, says the *Daily Express*.

"Professor" Talbert Soden was recently arrested at Bridgetown, Island of Barbados, on a charge preferred by Lance-Corporal W. C. Wharton, of "unlawfully and feloniously killing and slaying" Randolph Soden, aged twenty, a composer, in Queen's Park, Bridgetown, on September 18th.

It appears that the professor, who is a native of Trinidad, and has for some years been touring the West Indies giving displays as a hypnotist and illusionist, announced, with the usual fanfare, that he would hypnotise and bury a woman in a grave five feet deep in Queen's Park, bringing her back to life after an interval of three days. At the last moment, however, the woman begged to be excused, and Soden was cornered and volunteered to take her place. A crowd of 300 spectators was admitted at 6d. a head to witness the new twentieth century "miracle."

Soden, according to the evidence at the inquest, mounted and sat on a canvas-covered table when the burial moment arrived, removed a portion of his clothing, and donned a sleeping-suit handed to him by the professor, who, in turn, attired himself in a red-flowered ceremonial robe. The professor then proceeded to make the familiar "passes" with his hands over Soden's face and forehead, the young man's eyes slowly closing and his body gradually becoming rigid under the treatment.

Soden's body was now placed in the coffin, which had a glass panel in the lid at the head, and the coffin was lowered and covered with earth, a wooden shaft or periscope running from above the glass panel to three feet above the ground. The spectators were thus able to see the neck and shoulders of the hypnotized man. The next day was Sunday, and as the authorities refused to permit the professor to charge admission on that day, he decided to disinter Soden after seven o'clock, but when it was quickly seen that the youth's condition was hopeless.

Dr. T. G. Williams, senior resident physician at the General Hospital, and other doctors testified at the inquest that the disinterred man was pulseless and breathing hot, his nails and lips were purple, a vein in his arm refused to bleed when opened, and particles of sand were lodged in his eyes. Various drugs were vainly injected in an effort to save his life. He died two hours after entering the hospital without recovering consciousness.

HOW AIR WAS OBTAINED. Mr. H. W. Reece, K.C., the Solicitor-General, appeared on behalf of the police at the inquest. Further evidence showed that the sliding glass covering on the lid of the head of the coffin could be partially opened, the professor apparently relying on this *concoction* to permit the patient to obtain air, but at the same time to deceive the spectators, to whose arrangement was invisible.

The medical evidence, none-the-less, showed that Soden's death was due to asphyxiation caused by imperfect ventilation, although the jury brought in a verdict of "Death due to misadventure." Soden left the court amid loud cheers from a large crowd.

Curiously enough, on October 28th, 1906, the *Daily Express* reported from Kingston, Jamaica, the case of "Professor" W. A. Barclay, a coloured hypnotist, who hypnotised his white wife and kept her "buried" for 104 hours in a coffin equipped with two air shafts under eight feet of earth at Rockport, near Kingston. Mrs. Barclay, however, was in perfect health when disinterred, although she had lost eight pounds in weight.

SIR J. SIMON.

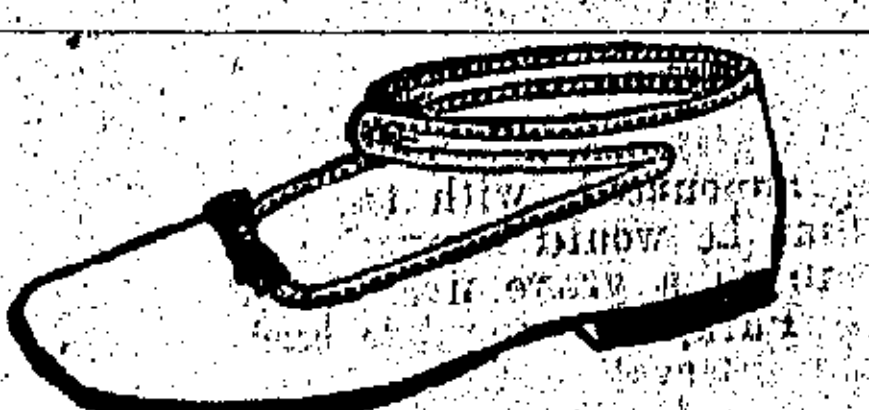
WHY HE HAS JOINED THE ARMY.

Sir John Simon, M.P., has addressed a letter to the chairman of the Walthamstow Liberal Association, in the course of which he explains the reasons which have induced him to join the Army. As to what has been achieved by the Allies in the war he writes: "The rulers of Germany, who planned the scheme of conquest and confidently counted on its success, are disillusioned. I do not doubt, but the peace of the world cannot be secured by accepting promises from statesmen who hold that promises are made in order that they may be broken whenever their military plans make it convenient to do so. And in spite of all that has been accomplished by the Allies, the peace accomplished by the Allies, and the strategy given us that the enemy is being overthrown, I cannot bring myself to believe in the possibility of negotiating an immediate and satisfactory peace. The peace we want is a peace which will prevent a war like this ever happening again."

Finally, Sir John says: "I can imagine only one crime which is to be compared to the crime of permitting the war to go on for an unnecessary hour, and that is the crime of slackening in our purpose, after all the sacrifices we have made, before a real opportunity of securing it has arisen. Holding these opinions, I have very anxiously considered what my own duty is, and though it is but little that a man of my age and training can contribute to the winning the Army in the field, I have come to the conclusion that I ought at this time to take that course. It is not that I do not estimate as important the work which Parliament is doing, and will have to do. On the contrary, the time is coming when the task of Parliament in restoring and enlarging our peaceful liberties, and in applying to the life of our community the ideal which have bound the nation together in undertaking the war, will be of unexampled importance. It is for that reason that I have done my utmost to help in framing and carrying the Franchise Bill. But that bill is, I trust, secure, and peace will come all the sooner if those who are most ardently for the traditions and practices of peace remember and show that they remember, for we are fighting."

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. NOTIFICATION.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on the 8th January, at 3 P.M., at the Public Works Department, and before a Committee provided by the Director of the Public Works, tenders will be received for the supply and laying of pipes for canalization of salt water (Extension). The conditions of the tendering, the Specifications and the Plans of the canalization are open to the Public at the Public Works Department, and in the Portuguese Consulate in Hongkong, where they can be examined all week days. Macao, Public Works Department, 18th December, 1917.

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THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY
THERAPION No. 1
THERAPION No. 2
THERAPION No. 3
THERAPION

THE WAR.

(Continued from page 5)

Branco-Belgian Front.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH FRONT.

SEVERAL ENEMY RAIDS.

LONDON, December 21st. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy raided a post north-east of Hargicourt and also under cover of the fog captured an advance post to the east of Messines. We drove off raiders north-east of Armentieres and to the north of the Menin Road.

We inflicted many casualties. There were patrol encounters south-east of Cambrai and both artilleries were active at Ballecourt, the enemy's being increasingly active south-east of Ypres.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig says there is nothing to report.

FRENCH FRONT.

STRONG ENEMY ATTACK FAILS.

LONDON, December 21st. A communiqué says:—There is moderate reciprocal artillery activity on the whole front.

A strong enemy attack in Lorraine, preceded by a violent bombardment of the trenches north of Reillon, completely failed.

The enemy left numerous dead. Aeroplanes bombed Dunkirk and Calais, three persons being killed and ten wounded.

AUTONOMOUS TCHECO-SLOVAK ARMY IN FRANCE.

PARIS, December 1st. A decree creates an autonomous Tcheco-Slovak army in France, the nucleus being the Tcheco-Slovaks serving with French Army.

Italian Front.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ITALIAN FRONT.

ITALIANS RECAPTURE GROUND.

LONDON, December 21st. A wireless Italian official message states:—In the region of the Asolone Front, to the east of the Brenna, we recaptured a considerable portion of the ground lost on Tuesday.

We dispersed a strong counter-attack at Monte Pertica.

SEVERE ENEMY LOSSES.

LONDON, December 20th. An Italian official message states:—We drove back with severe losses an attack on the front from Tasson to Col Dell'Orso. Sailors repulsed an attack at the Cortelazzo bridgehead.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

LONDON, December 21st. A German wireless official message states:—We repulsed repeated counter-attacks against the newly-won lines at Monte Pertica.

The number of prisoners captured between the Brenna and the Piave since December 11th total 270 officers and 4,150 men.

A further German official report says:—The Italians seven times attacked the heights we won westward of Monte Asolone, and three times attacked Monte Pertica. They also attacked Monte Solero. All failed.

Naval Activities.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ENEMY SUBMARINES DESTROYED.

FRENCH DESTROYERS ACCOUNT FOR TWO.

ATHENS, December 21st. French destroyers have accounted for two enemy submarines between Trianon and Ica.

One was sunk with all hands. The crew abandoned the other, and the captain, two officers and 16 men were captured.

General.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ENEMY'S SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN.

DISSATISFIED WITH RESULTS.

LONDON, December 21st. Reuter's Agency is authorized to state that although it is true that we are not destroying more U-boats than are being built, it is clear from recent attacks on convoys by surface ships that the enemy is not satisfied with the results of the submarine campaign, recognizing that it requires assistance.

GERMANY'S ECONOMIC FUTURE.

ACUTE PROBLEMS.

LONDON, December 21st. German anxiety regarding Germany's economic future is being constantly revealed.

Lecturing Bremen, Dr. Karstadt, one of the best known speakers of the German Colonial Society, said:—When our millions of soldiers return from the war, they must be provided with bread and work. But how, if the raw material is lacking, for example, cotton? These problems are acute owing to the closer union of the British Empire.

Dr. Karstadt declared that Turkey could not satisfy Germany's hunger for raw material. Germany must have a Central Africa stretching from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. Hence Germany must recover her colonies and enlarge them. She must also construct essential naval bases. Dr. Karstadt concluded by predicting German submarines operating from Dar-es-Salaam as far as Aden.

PRIME MINISTER ANALYSES WAR SITUATION.

THE FOOD QUESTION.

LONDON, December 20th.

In the House of Commons, on the motion for the adjournment, Mr. Lloyd George, reviewing the war situation, dealt first with the food question, and said that two circumstances had recently contributed to the gravity of the position, namely, the failure to get margarine and butter from Denmark and Holland, and also that the Allied food shortage was greater than anticipated.

He said we had considerably to sacrifice our own resources in order to supply the Allies. He was sure that when Britons realized that any deprivation was due to their sharing with their brave Allies, they would bear it with greater heart and spirit. He was glad to say that, owing to the efforts of the Food Controller, circumstances which occasioned much anxiety during the last few days had already visibly improved. The food queues were largely due to the shortage of margarine, butter and cheese. The tea position was steadily improving, and he hoped that by increased home manufacture of the margarine position would also improve. He emphasized that unless there was a fairer distribution of foodstuffs the Government would take over the distribution.

SUBMARINE MENACE UNDER CONTROL.

Referring to shipping, Mr. Lloyd George said that the margin of loss at sea was narrowed, for the losses were decreasing, building was increasing and the sinking of submarines was increasing. The shipping losses had been lighter by hundreds of thousands of tons than he estimated in August. That was very largely owing to improvement in the Navy's methods of keeping the submarine under control.

Proceeding, Mr. Lloyd George said the aggregate British shipbuilding in 1917 exceeded the record year of 1913. (Cheers.) The fact that the destruction of German submarines had steadily increased in 1917 was remarkably encouraging, because it showed that the Admiralty and the Shipping Controller were grappling with the most menacing situation with which we were confronted in this war.

HOPES FOR THIS YEAR NOT REALISED.

Dealing with the military situation, the Prime Minister admitted that the hopes formed at the beginning of the year had not been realised. This was entirely attributable to the Russian collapse. He emphasised that, despite Russian activity, the Germans had not quite held their own in the West. On the contrary, they had been beaten in many battles and had secured only one conspicuous success, which was attributable to a surprise, which was now the subject of enquiry. The Germans had lost 100,000 prisoners, very valuable ground and hundreds of guns, despite the fact that no dangerous enemy menace them on the Eastern Front. He did not doubt that if the Russians had fulfilled expectations and carried out their allotted part, the pride of Prussian military power would have been completely humbled. The successes we had gained in 1917 would permanently affect the future of the world.

MOST NOTABLE EVENTS IN THE WAR.

The capture of Bagdad and Jerusalem added more to the prestige of Britain throughout the world than almost any other event in the war. The capture of Jerusalem had most profoundly impressed the whole civilised world. A good deal had been said about side-shows, but the British Empire owed a good deal to side-shows. In recording the events of 1917, history would place first the Russian Revolution, then the entry of America into world politics, and then the conquest of Mesopotamia and Palestine, and the release of the Arab from the domination of the Turk.

SUCCESS OF UNTER-ALLIED COUNCIL.

Mr. Lloyd George said that the Inter-Allied Council would deal with the financial, economic, shipping and other vital questions. Its decisions would affect all nations. This would have a greater effect on international relations than could have been imagined. Up to the present the Council had been a conspicuous success. It had been free of and had helped to remove friction. The various countries had found therein a means for discussing and interchanging views and helping to reach decisions. They were using it freely. When the great machinery of this Council, which had already started, and to which Britain, France, the United States and Italy had given their best men, was developed, it would have a great influence in directing the economic policy of the Governments represented in the Council.

GERMANY'S LATE COLONIES.

Regarding the German Colonies, the Prime Minister said this must be settled by the International Peace Congress. The future trustees of these Colonies must consider the sentiments of the people themselves, whether they were anxious to secure the return of their former masters or entrust themselves to others. The wishes, desires and interests of the peoples of those countries must be the dominant factor in settling their future Government.

ANGLO-FRENCH ASSISTANCE TO ITALY.

The situation had become far more menacing owing to two events, during the last few weeks. Firstly, the unexpected defeat of Italy and the despatch of British and French assistance there at a very critical moment; undoubtedly done with a celerity which greatly surprised the enemy. The British and French support was both material and moral. It had encouraged and freed the Italians, and troops that a few weeks ago were completely dispersed, were now returning to the ranks. The British and French troops, therefore, could claim a very large share in restoring the position on the Italian Front. (Cheers.) Nevertheless, the Italian defeat made the military position more anxious for the British and French war directions, and it meant a greater drain on the manpower of Great Britain and France.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN ARMISTICE.

The second fact responsible for the worsening of the position was the Russian armistice. True, the armistice provided for the non-movement of troops to the West, but we have heard of scraps of paper before, and the country that relies for its security on Germany keeping her promises, either in the spirit or the letter, has not profited by experience. (Cheers.) These two factors have compelled us to make greater sacrifices in order to strengthen the armies in the field in the coming year.

MAN-POWER AND LABOUR.

The pledges given to Labour in 1916 in connection with recruiting were necessary and desirable in the interests of the country, but circumstances over which they had no control necessitated either the alteration or cancellation of those pledges. The Government must call up many men at present protected by the conditions of their employment. Before asking for legislation enabling the Government to make a further strain on the man-power was that they were at present forced to send back to the fighting line men who had been repeatedly wounded. It was unfair and intolerable that such men should be sent back while there were men in the country who had never been to the front. (Cheers.) Undoubtedly, the next few months would be the most trying of the war, because one great Power had practically gone out and another great Power was not fully in; therefore, our burden would be considerable.

THE ENEMIES' DIFFICULTIES.

The enemy, however, also had difficulties. For example, owing to the British blockade, and German workers had deteriorated physically, hence the output of Germany per man had decreased by thirty-three per cent., as compared with the first year of the war. France's losses were undoubtedly very severe. Italy's losses, despite the reverses, were not comparable with the losses of Austria. Despite our great casualties, the permanent losses of the British Army were not more than one-fourth or one-fifth of the permanent losses of the Germans.

The reserve man-power of the nations actively allied against Germany was twice as great as that of the Central Powers and their Allies.

GREAT BRITAIN'S WAR-AIMS.

Referring to yesterday's war-aims debate, the Prime Minister remarked that since Russia had entered into separate negotiations, she must be responsible for the protection of her own territory, and that also disposed of any understanding regarding Constantinople.

Mr. Lloyd George reiterated that we had not entered the war in order to annex a single yard of territory. (Cheers.) We had entered the war because we believed that the honour of Great Britain was involved, in standing by her word. (Cheers.) The war was the result of the restless arrogance of the military caste of Prussia, who were determined to force their power on the world. They had planned the war for years; they were once even prepared to overthrow their own ruler in order to set up another ruler, who was more in sympathy with their aims. They had repeatedly tried to force war on Russia, who was compelled to purchase peace at the price of humiliation. They had tried to force war on France, who also had to purchase peace at a price that we would not have endured. The character of the Prussian military caste was exemplified by the Zabern incident. A soldier, if he had a sword, had the right under the German military law to run a civilian through. Let the House translate that into terms of international relations. (Cheers.) Other nations had been civilian nations before the war and they said: "You have no business in Belgium. Get out." The reply was: "By German military law we have the right to run through for plating to interfere."

That was the temper that made war, and until it was broken there would never be peace in the world, and that is why we said that victory was an essential condition of peace. It was not because it satisfied some low, vindictive sense in human nature merely to punish, but because we realised that victory was the only thing that would give reality to peace terms. A League of Nations, in which Germany was represented by that military caste triumphant would be a hollow farce. (Cheers.) The people of Germany must be in the League of Nations. That was why victory itself was more important than mere terms. It was because victory alone would give reality to peace terms that the Government would ask the Trade Unions and the House of Commons for greater powers to enable them to increase the necessary means. (Loud cheers.)

FUTURE OF MESOPOTAMIA AND ARMENIA.

Mr. Lloyd George emphasised that what will happen to Mesopotamia and Armenia must be left to the Peace Conference, but one thing which would never happen would be their restoration to the Turks.

ADVICE BY MR. ASQUITH.

Mr. Asquith, following Mr. Lloyd George, emphasised that shipping and finance were the two most formidable problems a year ago. Now they were much more formidable. He hoped that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his next Budget, would make further taxation demands. There was a feeling, which he believed was wholly unwarranted, of insecurity regarding loans. He regarded the State's obligation in this matter as sacred. With regard to shipping, it was far the most vital need of the country, before the needs of the army and munitions. He urged the Government to use every means to make it clear that we were fighting for security, liberty and justice in the world through a free confederation of equal States. The events in Russia showed the necessity for moral accompanying a material campaign. A League of Nations was the avowed purpose of this country and the Empire from the very first.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

ARMISTICE BETWEEN UKRAINE, IANS AND BOLSHEVIKS.

ONASSA, December 20th.

Owing to the Ukrainians ordering the Bolsheviks to cease interfering in the administration of the town, and not allowing the Bolshevik expedition against the Don Cossacks to pass through Ukraine, there have been three days' sanguinary fighting between the Ukrainians and the Bolsheviks. The leader of the Bolsheviks was killed and an armistice was arranged.

Bandits of criminals have been pillaging the shops and houses, but, probably, order will soon be restored.

REPLY TO THE MAXIMALIST ULTIMATUM.

PETROGRAD, December 21st.

The Ukrainian Republic, replying to the Maximalist ultimatum, demands absolute non-intervention in its affairs, the recall of the Ukrainian troops from the other Fronts to Ukraine, the non-intervention of the Commissioners and the Generalissimo on the Ukrainian and Romanian South-Western Fronts, the participation of the Ukrainian Republic in the peace negotiations and the representation of Ukraine, to the extent of one-third, in the future Federal Government. The reply also refuses supplies from Ukraine, unless cash is paid, of which one-third must be in gold.

The Maximalist Commissioners have replied insisting that Ukraine shall renounce its supply of General Kaledin and the Bourgeoisie rebellion.

GENERAL KALEDIN ENTERS ROSTOFF.

LONDON, December 21st.

The Times Petrograd Correspondent states that General Kaledin entered Rostoff on December 16th, after six days' fighting, in which the Red Guards lost 800 killed and 1,000 wounded.

The Maximalist leaders took refuge on the warships which attempted to leave the river, but the cruiser *Kolkida* stranded and was prevented from reaching the sea by the Cossack artillery.

FREE GERMANS IN PETROGRAD.

LONDON, December 21st.

The Daily Chronicle's Petrograd Correspondent states that wagon loads of German prisoners, virtually free, are daily arriving at Petrograd, and German soldiers in uniform are met everywhere in the streets. Undoubtedly, the German influence is working strongly, and it is believed the Germans were concerned in the drink riots, which the Soviet declared to have been the work of the Cadets, in order to immobilise the Soviet troops. There have been many arrests.

EXPUNGING MAXIMALIST VIEWS TO GERMANS.

LONDON, December 21st.

The Daily Mail's Petrograd Correspondent states that M. Protzky has ordered the publication of a German newspaper for distribution in the German trenches, expunging the Maximalist views.

AUSTRO-GERMAN EX-PRISONERS COMMAND BOLSHEVIKS.

LONDON, December 21st.

The Morning Post's Petrograd Correspondent states that in a fight between the Bolsheviks and the Cossacks at Tashkent, the former, who were victorious, were commanded by Austrian and German officers who are ex-prisoners.

It is believed that a force of ex-prisoners under their own officers, equalling two Army Corps, is within striking distance of Petrograd.

RUSSIAN STAFF IN ROUMANIA JOIN UKRAINIANS.

LONDON, December 21st.

The Daily News' Petrograd Correspondent states that the Russian Staff on the Roumanian Front has joined the Ukrainians, and the General Kaledin has been appointed Generalissimo of Ukraine.

BOLSHEVIK REGIME TOTTERING.

COPENHAGEN, December 21st.

A private message from Finland says the Bolshevik regime is shaking; hence the state of siege at Petrograd.

There have been numerous arrests, including the ex-ministers M.M. Savinkoff and Tchernoff.

RUSSIAN OFFICERS VOLUNTEER FOR AMERICAN ARMY.

LONDON, December 21st.

Reuter's Correspondent at the American Headquarters in France reports that the officers of the Russian Army in France have volunteered unanimously to serve in the United States Army.

The request is being referred to Washington.

It is likely that many of their men will follow the officers.

CONSCRIPTION REFERENDUM IN AUSTRALIA.

PARTIAL RETURNS.

MELBOURNE, December 21st.

Partial returns of the Referendum give a 52.000 majority against Conscription out of 83,000, which is a quarter of the total of the electorate. The returns are chiefly from the Anti-Conscription strongholds, and the soldiers' vote is not included.

GERMANY'S LAST COLONY.

TEUTON PRESS ON EAST AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

LONDON, December 21st.

The German Press is adopting an inspired attitude that the honours of war with regard to the East African campaign rest with the Germans.

The Cologne Gazette says:—There is little reason for rejoicing in London and elsewhere. General Lettow von Vorbeck is not yet vanquished, and we hope that he will still hold out for a long time. If, after his immortal deeds, he should be compelled to lower his flag and our last Colony about this time be really lost, our enemies must know that the pledges which we hold in Europe will thereby be made only doubly precious. With these pledges we shall win back the tropical soil we need and intend to have for our future economic life.

BRITISH NAVY AND ITS WORK

WHAT IS WRONG?

[BY ARCHIBALD MURD.]

We all have our war maps, which are studied from time to time in order to judge the importance of movements on the various fronts. How many persons ever refer to a chart, or even an atlas, when some incident occurs at sea? The sea is regarded as a flat expanse without features, and thus great injustice is done to the British Fleet. In point of fact, the strategic features of the oceans and seas are more vital than those of any land front; while in the latter case an army can, and does, maintain an unbroken line of trenches, at sea a navy cannot do so. Our seamen—about one-twentieth the number of our soldiers—have to patrol on a front of about 900 miles in the North Sea, always conscious that darkness invites a surprise attack by the enemy at an unknown point. Darkness and surprise are the allies of the defensive. He can always make a thrust, like an adept swordsman, and he can do so with every possibility of success on a moonless night choosing his objective a point of the Shetland Islands, or bombarding a spot on the coast between Yorkshire and Essex, or perhaps endeavouring to cut our essential communications across the Channel; in any event he has a 300-mile front open to him, and he has the enormous advantage which surprise, darkness, and speed give him.

FIVE GREAT TASKS.

The Navy is fighting five enemies at sea, which may be set out thus:—
Natural Forces.—Storms and fog and currents are conspicuous among them. This country loses many hundred lives a year at sea—what are described as marine casualties. We are at war, but Nature indulges in just as fierce outbreaks, and just as baffling moods of fog and mist as at other times. Nature has to be defeated.

The High Seas Fleet.—We cannot see the German ships, but they exist. We are apt to forget that the High Seas Fleet offers a continual menace to us. No force has ever been "contained" as the enemy of to-day is being "contained"; month after month passes, and, rather than fight, he remains behind his mine-field, shore guns, and submarines, with Heligoland as his impregnable advanced base, provided with destroyers, submarines, and air-craft. But the Grand Fleet, with its attendant cruisers, destroyers, and auxiliaries, must be kept concentrated and at the fullest possible strength, so that if the Germans suddenly break out their defeat is certain. The Grand Fleet must always be ready for battle.

The Mine.—All the time the Germans are laying mines off our shores, in the entrances to our harbours, and in the highways of commerce. They have many mine-laying submarines always at work, creeping along unseen and placing their "eggs" where they are likely to do the most harm.

The Raider.—Since the war began, the peril of the raider has existed, and it still exists. The Germans have not got many through the net, even in the darkness, and by using neutral flags and disguises, but they are continually trying to do so. Their ill-success is a tribute to the efficiency of our patrols, and to the vigilance of the Grand Fleet. In the last Great War the only trouble after Trafalgar was due to raiders, which were always at sea, getting in and out of their ports in spite of the watchfulness of our blockading forces, and capturing thousands of our merchantmen. We thus lost half our mercantile marine, and the captures were more numerous after Trafalgar than before.

The Submarine.—The Germans have pressed into their service the submarine, armed with powerful quick-firing guns and the torpedo, carrying an explosive charge which can sink almost any ship. The submarine has a great radius of action, and is no longer confined to the waters in proximity to its base; it can travel on the surface twice as fast as an ordinary tramp steamer, and under the water about as fast; it can operate by night as by day; it can fire its torpedoes when submerged, with only a periscope showing above the surface, and the periscope, a very small object, is often undistinguishable even at fairly close quarters. The effect of arming merchantmen has been to drive the U-boats under water when attacking, and that, while decreasing our shipping losses, increases our Fleet's difficulties.

Two war diseases by sea. These five paragraphs perhaps convey some idea of the tasks which the British Fleet is doing at a time when, ignoring the charts, some persons are suggesting that the work is being badly done. I have always held that this country will never appreciate the debt which it owes to its seamen until it is invaded or reduced to a condition of starvation—brought face to face with some such situation as that of Italy to-day. All the fighting is taking place outside this country. Why? Our armies would stand defeated if the British Fleet failed to achieve complete success at sea.

But recently the Germans sent out two swift raiders. The non-charters at once declared in indignation that someone ought to be punished. If you have an ordinary map of you, turn to the North Sea! You will notice that the incident, as a very unfortunate but unavoidable accident, as the First Lord, like Mr. Balfour, on a former occasion, has said, occurred somewhere between Bergen and the Shetland Islands. The enemy warships, with a speed of over thirty knots and heavy guns, rushed northward in the darkness with all lights screened, keeping close in to Danish and Norwegian territorial waters; in half an hour they had completed the outrage and murder; and then they had to cover a course of 300 miles—notice the distance—until they reached the Narve and could decide whether to return to Germany by way of the North Sea or to strike home through the (Continued at 1000/1001: Calcutta.)

ENEMY WILES ON THE ITALIAN FRONT.

ANTI-BRITISH PROPAGANDA.

Writing on October 21st (some days before the Austro-German offensive) from the Italian Front to the *Corriere della Sera* of Milan, Signor Luigi Barzini, the well-known war correspondent, cited examples of the propaganda carried on by the Austrians among the Italian troops. The most striking feature of this propaganda is its anti-British character. As in Russia and France, so in Italy, England has been held up by German and Austrian agents as the Power who alone prevents peace and compels her Allies to sacrifice themselves to her perfidious designs.

Some of the leaflets disseminated among the Italian troops by means of special propaganda bombs or dropped from aeroplanes, run as follows:—

"At the request of the Italian Government, English and French soldiers at Milan and at Turin have been firing for two days with machine-guns upon old Italian soldiers who, when called up, refused to go to the front, as well as upon the people who took their part. Countless killed and wounded."

"There are now in Italy 14,000 English troops, and their number grows daily, because they are used as policemen. They occupy your ports and railways, they have seized your trade and swaggers as masters in your cities, killing pitilessly those who ask for bread and peace."

"At Milan, Turin, San Remo, Civita Vecchia, Florence, and Genoa, there have been great demonstrations by the people, who are tired of war and demand immediate peace. Consequently English and French troops, which were in readiness, were called out, and with cannon and machine-guns, they perpetrated a real and horrible massacre among the demonstrators and among the Italian troops themselves. There were 500 killed, thousands of wounded, and among them also Italian officers, women, and children."

"Your Government has been bought by English gold. Therefore it is deaf to the cries of the people; and instead of giving you peace, your Ministers place the independence of your fatherland little by little in the power of the English monster. Agree with us quickly, and know that, though we will not yield an inch of shore or sea, we are always ready honestly to divide with you the dominion of the Adriatic. Thus you will be the masters of a free sea. Otherwise, good-bye to the Adriatic, good-bye to your navigation and commerce. You will inevitably disappear down the throat of the insatiable English lion, like the Russians. If you do not decide to stop the scandalous British jury, you will share the sad end of your Russian allies, whom the unbreakable British yoke still prevents from concluding an honourable peace."

Among the literature distributed was a pamphlet describing Italy as "the latest British colony." On its cover the Italian peninsula is represented in perspective. Naples is marked as the headquarters of the British Consulate; Rome as the headquarters of the British Command; and a gigantic British officer, pistol in hand, is portrayed as covering all of Italy, while over Lombardy towers an English soldier engaged in bayoneting a poor, ragged woman surrounded by children who are imploring pity.

the Sound; for the Germans, with their mines and patrols, can use the Baltic entrance for cruisers as we cannot. Two hundred miles only! The Nazis are about 350 miles from the Firth of Forth, and even farther from any naval base on the English coast. Study a chart of the North Sea, draw a line from the scene of the engagement to the Nazis, and the character of the incident is revealed. One more point. The Fleet is grappling with two insidious war diseases—the raider and the submarine; the cure for the former is the cruiser, which must be more powerful than the raider or it will be defeated; and the cure for the submarine is the destroyer. British seamen, whether in the Northern mist or at the Admiralty, never know which form the trouble will take. They may provide a cruiser escort, which means that the cruiser, whose defence against the U-boat is her speed, has to keep pace with the merchantman, going at six or eight knots an hour; and thus a big target may be presented for a U-boat, as instance the fate of a score of cruisers. Or they may decide that the submarine is the immediate danger, and use destroyers for escort, and then an enemy cruiser of great gun-power and high speed may appear out of the darkness. Sometimes the enemy is bound to score. But how often does he do so? If we look at our meal tables, we get an answer; if we turn to a paper and see that about 5,000 "targets" for submarines and raiders enter or leave our ports every week, we get further evidence of the way the Fleet is doing its work; if we study the output of our munition works, largely dependent on overseas supplies of raw material, further light is thrown on the matter; if we glance at the morning communiqués describing what our sea-supported soldiers are doing, we must be reminded that folly and muddle reign neither at the Admiralty, nor in the Grand Fleet, nor in the patrols.

With limited resources the Navy is performing miracles every day, and yet we are told that there is widespread public dissatisfaction. Perhaps an invasion would cure that trouble, if it exists, of which I am not convinced. At least such a threat as our forefathers lived under for years at Boulogne and for months after months continued his preparations for over-running this country. The great British sailors, knowing that he had no long-range guns, mines, submarines, or destroyers to support his scheme, nevertheless admitted that they could not interfere with him, and could only hope to defeat him when he put to sea. Science has come to the aid of the second greatest sea Power of the world, and some of us, after a hearty sea-borne meal, sit in our easy chairs in comfort, perhaps smoking tobacco from Cuba, or India, or the United States, and wonder what our sailors are doing—Daily Telegraph.

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"HAWAII MARU" ... MONDAY, 24th Dec. at 3 P.M.
"CANADA MARU" ... WEDNESDAY, 2nd Jan. at 3 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains a regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Japan, calling at intermediate ports in Japan. Overland cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connection are made at Japan Round ports with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

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AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, calling at Auckland, M. Z. Sydney and Melbourne.

BOMBAY LINE—Fortnightly service for Bombay sailing at Singapore, and Colombo. At present this line's steamers maintain cargo only.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Java ports calling at Manila, Sandakan and Macassar. Booking for passengers and cargo to the ports.

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FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Amoy, Tainan, via Swatow and Amoy.

"JOSEPH MARU" ... WEDNESDAY, 26th Dec. at 6 A.M.
"AMAKUSA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 30th Dec. at 10 A.M.
"KOSHI MARU" ... THURSDAY, 2nd Jan. at 6 A.M.

These Formosan Lines will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbor Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 76 will be used.

For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to—

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